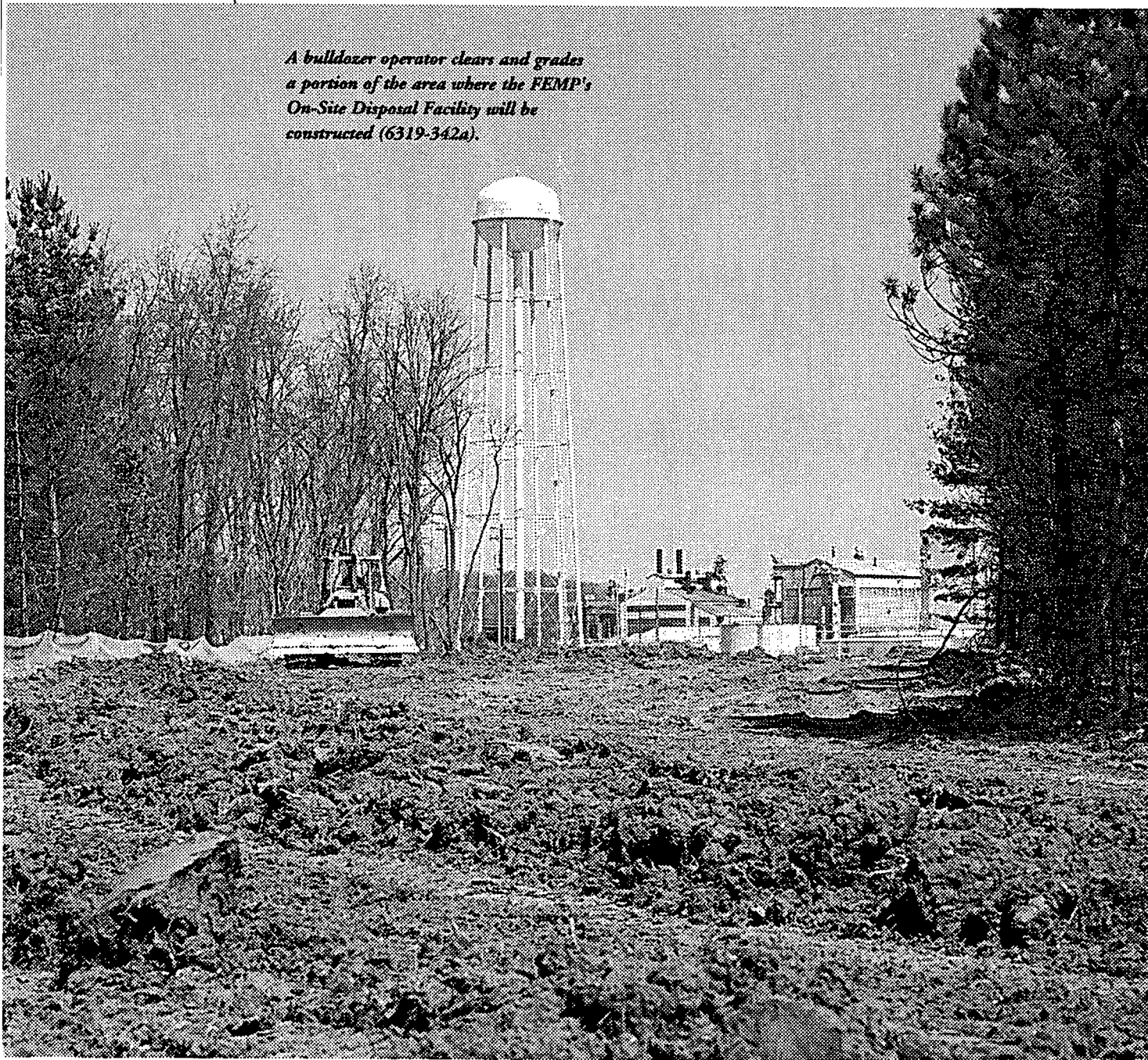


fernald Report

JUNE 1997

A bulldozer operator clears and grades a portion of the area where the FEMP's On-Site Disposal Facility will be constructed (6319-342a).



Collaborative Effort Results in Fernald Success Story



DOE-FEMP Director Jack Craig (6171-177)

When the remains of approximately 25 Native Americans were reburied on Fernald property on May 25, it was a victory for everyone involved. The ceremony was the culmination of three years of hard work. The human remains and artifacts, believed to be approximately 950 years old, were found in 1994 during the construction of the Crosby Township Public Water Supply pipelines. Because the remains could not be linked to a particular tribe, FEMP personnel had to coordinate with, and respect the wishes of, several Native American tribes and groups.

I had the privilege of attending the ceremony, and it was a truly unique experience. I sincerely thank the Native Americans for providing the information we needed to treat the remains and artifacts with proper respect. I also want to recognize Joe Schomaker, the FEMP's Cultural Resources manager, who coordinated the entire effort on behalf of the U. S. government. The entire day was a tribute to what we can achieve when we work collaboratively. According to the National Parks Service, the ceremony, in all likelihood, was the first of its kind to take place in Ohio.

At the wake following the ceremony, some Native Americans who participated in the ceremony expressed their appreciation of the effort put forth by DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald to make the reburial a reality. I look forward to maintaining the constructive working relationship that has been established between the FEMP and the participating Native American groups, and I am confident the spirit of goodwill generated that day will continue to grow.

*Jack Craig, Director
DOE-FEMP Office*

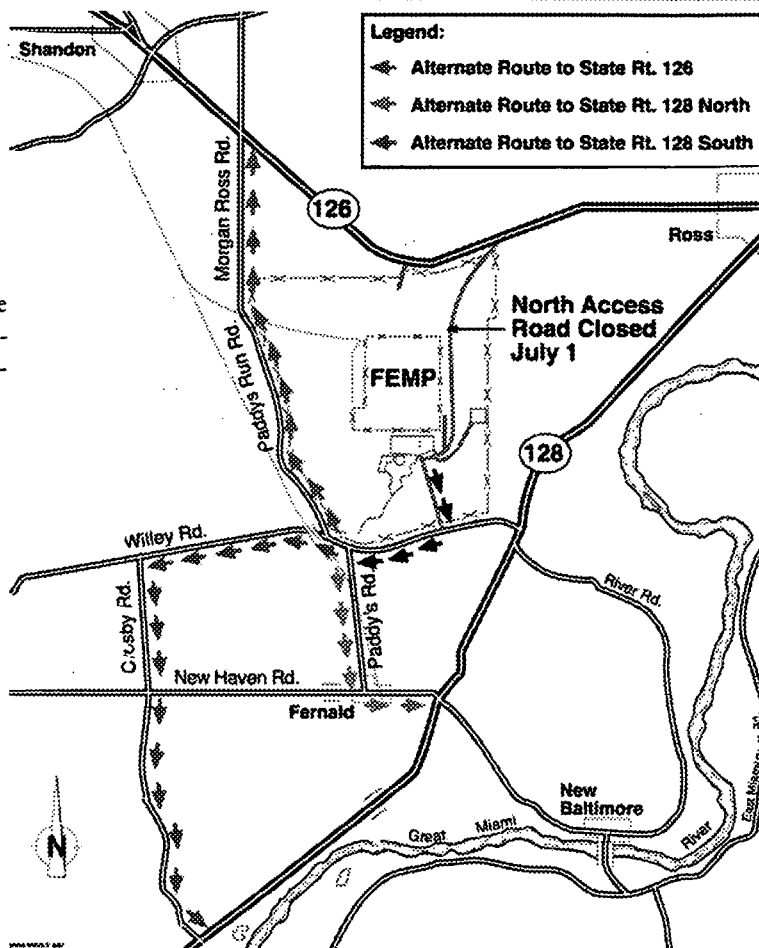
FEMP On-Site Disposal Facility Construction To Begin July 1

Construction of the first of eight cells that will comprise the FEMP's On-Site Disposal Facility (OSDF) is scheduled to begin July 1. The FEMP's main North Access Road connecting with State Route 126 (Cincinnati-Brookville Road) will be closed during the first week of July through Oct. 31 to accommodate OSDF Phase I construction activities. During this closure, the main North Access Road will be constructed in a new alignment and reopened in November 1997.

Meanwhile, construction of the OSDF sedimentation basin began June 1. Construction continues on the leachate conveyance system and the haul road that will be used to transport waste from the FEMP's southern waste units to the OSDF.

Traffic Maintenance Initiatives To Minimize Impact of Main North Access Road Closure

Several traffic maintenance initiatives will be implemented to minimize the impact of the four-month closure of the main North Access Road on FEMP workers and visitors. For example, traffic control officers will be stationed on State Route 128 and Willey Road from 3:30 p.m. to 4:15 p.m., when most workers leave for the day. Additionally, FEMP security personnel will be strategically stationed to direct vehicles in the FEMP parking lots during peak traffic times. Alternate travel route maps have been provided to FEMP employees.



FEMP Technology Deployment Initiative Proposals Selected

On June 18, in a memo to DOE Ohio Field Office, DOE Assistant Secretary Al Alm announced selection of the FEMP's proposals for the Technology Deployment Initiative (TDI), which was established by the DOE Office of Science and Technology to evaluate and implement technological solutions that allow site cleanup to be accomplished better, faster and cheaper.

"Selection of these projects represents a significant milestone in ensuring innovative and efficient technologies are integrated into Environmental Management activities and programs throughout the DOE complex," Alm wrote. "The Technology Deployment Initiative is one of the tools to successfully accomplish the goals and objectives of the 2006 Plan. These projects identify potential cost savings and schedule acceleration which may be realized through deployment of innovative technologies for environmental cleanup." Project-specific plans deployment plans will not be developed until Congress completes its review of DOE's 1998 fiscal year budget, which includes funding requests for Technology Deployment Initiative.

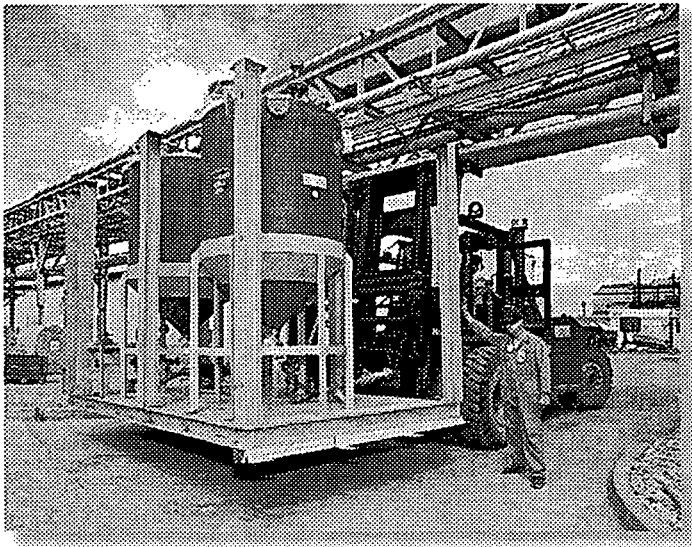
The FEMP four proposals submitted for consideration include:

1. Terra-Kleen solvent extraction technology for the treatment of low-level radioactive waste contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs);
2. Deployment of an integrated technology suite for cost-effectively delineating contamination in soils in support of soil remedial actions;
3. Decontamination and decommissioning of 29 structures at the FEMP; and
4. DUCRETE technology for advanced shielding applications.

DOE's Office of Science and Technology funds research, development and demonstration of accelerated environmental cleanup plans and schedules, if deployed effectively throughout the DOE complex. TDI is a multi-year program with a funding level of \$50 million anticipated for fiscal year 1998. Descriptions of the FEMP technology proposals will be featured in future issues of the *Fernald Report* and in "Technology Programs" on the FEMP Web site (<http://www.fernald.gov>).

Two Ohio DOE Sites Save Millions of Dollars By Transferring Equipment

The DOE-FEMP Office and DOE-Ashtabula (DOE-AB) have collaborated on the transfer of equipment from the FEMP to the Ashtabula site, where it will be used in remediation efforts. This transfer of excess property, documentation and support between the two sites has saved DOE approximately \$2 million.



This effort was initiated with the transfer of the FEMP's soil washing pilot plant equipment to the DOE-AB. Developed to demonstrate the effectiveness of soil washing for removing uranium from FEMP soils, the soil washing pilot plant equipment was effective; however, treatment of soils using a physical/chemical process was more costly than the selected remedy – placement in the FEMP's On-Site Disposal Facility.

The DOE-FEMP Office has also sent chemical extraction and materials solids transfer technologies and documentation to the DOE-AB and also supported DOE-AB efforts in establishing and operating this pilot-scale processing plant.

Transferral of the FEMP's soil washing pilot plant equipment to the DOE site in Ashtabula, Ohio, saved DOE and taxpayers approximately \$2 million. DOE-AB used the equipment to process 100 cubic yards of soil (6438-62).

DOE and U.S. EPA Enter "Agreement In Principle" to Resolve FEMP Silos Project Dispute

On May 15, DOE and U.S. EPA entered an "Agreement In Principle" (AIP) to resolve the dispute resolution process related to the Operable Unit 4 milestones. This dispute arose when DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald missed several regulatory milestones associated with design of the FEMP's full-scale vitrification facility.

The AIP requires DOE to supplement the original Operable Unit 4 Feasibility Study and Proposed Plan and re-evaluate vitrification and other potential alternatives for remediation of Silos 1 and 2. Based on this re-evaluation, a cleanup remedy will be confirmed in an amendment to the Operable Unit 4 Record of Decision (ROD).

This requirement was based on U.S. EPA's position that the anticipated cost increase associated with Silos 1 and 2 remediation is a fundamental change in the basis for original remedy selection and, therefore, must be re-evaluated in a ROD amendment. The AIP also requires DOE to complete an Explanation of Significant Difference (ESD) to allow use of an alternative stabilization technology for the remediation of Silo 3. DOE and U.S. EPA are currently discussing with stakeholders the technical approach and schedule for completing the ROD amendment and ESD. The AIP requires that enforceable schedules for these processes be established by July 14, 1997.



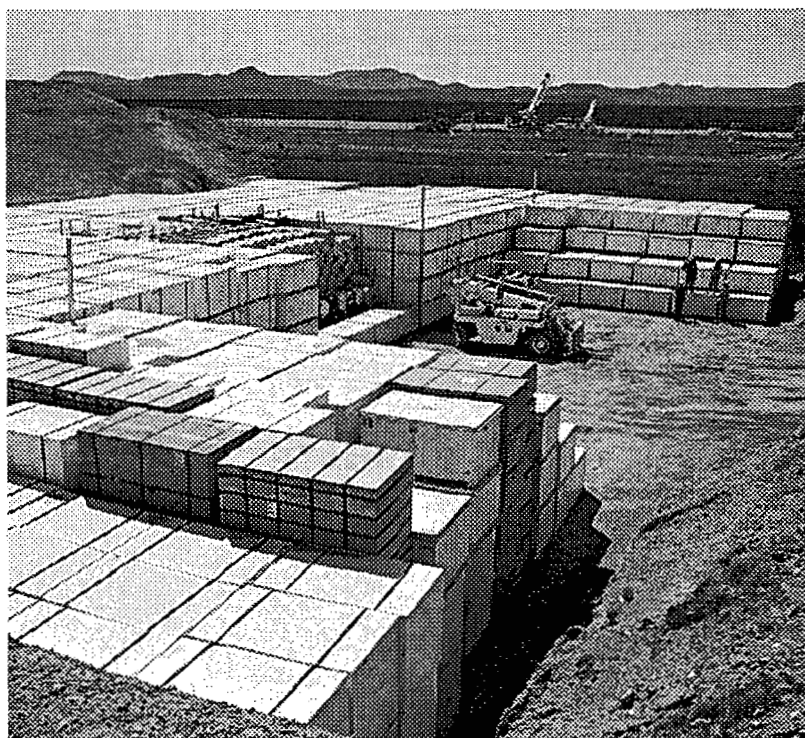
Silos 1, 2, and 3, and the Vitrification Pilot Plant (above), are the subject of many public involvement activities for stakeholders locally and in Nevada (6385-112).

FEMP Personnel Respond to Nevada Stakeholders' Interest in Silos Project

In response to Nevada stakeholders' requests, FEMP personnel have increased efforts to communicate with the Nevada Test Site public about plans to remediate the FEMP Silos Project. On June 3, FEMP personnel conducted a public workshop for NTS stakeholders in Las Vegas, Nev. The workshop focused on Silo 3 remediation; Silo 3 contains dried thorium-bearing wastes. DOE is proposing to accelerate Silo 3 remediation and transport the waste to the NTS for safe disposal.

During the decision-making process, FEMP personnel and stakeholders will screen several stabilization technologies and will focus on implementation, effectiveness and cost issues. Once alternatives are narrowed, additional public workshops will be held to discuss selected technologies.

On July 1, DOE will hold the same forum it held with FEMP stakeholders on June 16 with stakeholders in Nevada. During the July 1 meeting, DOE will explain details about the proposed alternatives. A transcript and handouts from these workshops will be available at DOE's Public Environmental Information Center (PEIC), 10845 Hamilton Cleves Highway (513-738-0164 or 513-648-7480 after July 14).



In response to Nevada stakeholders' requests, FEMP personnel have increased efforts to communicate with the Nevada Test Site (right) public about plans to remediate the FEMP Silos Project. DOE is proposing to accelerate Silo 3 remediation and transport the waste to the NTS (6385-112).

Third Silos Project Workshop to be Held for FEMP Stakeholders July 29

The next Silos Project Workshop for FEMP stakeholders will be held July 29 at the Alpha Building, 10967 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison. Check the "Stakeholders/Opportunities" section of the FEMP Web site (<http://www.fernald.gov>) for a list of all public involvement activities.

Recycling Methodology Public Meeting to be Held July 8

On July 8, DOE will hold a meeting to discuss the Plant 4 Case Study, the *Draft Final Decision Methodology for Fernald Material Disposition Alternatives*, and the decision process. The meeting will begin at 7 p.m. at the Alpha Building, Classroom B, 10967 Hamilton-Cleves Road. The document is available at the PEIC and on the FEMP Web site, (<http://www.fernald.gov>). Stakeholders can submit oral or written comments on the revised methodology to: Gary Stegner, U.S. DOE-FEMP Office, P.O. Box 538705, Cincinnati, OH 45253-8705, or they can submit comments electronically via the FEMP Web site.

Public Environmental Information Center to Move During Second Week in July

During the second week in July, the Public Environmental Information Center (PEIC) will move to the Delta Building, 10995 Hamilton-Cleves Highway, Harrison, just north of its current location in the JAMTEK Building. The new phone number will be 513-648-7480. After the move, dial 513-648-7495 to reach Rene Eichhold. Check the "Stakeholders" section of the FEMP Web site (<http://www.fernald.gov>) for more information about the PEIC.

Current plans are for the Fernald Community Reuse Organization (CRO) to move into a portion of the space formerly occupied by the PEIC staff. More information about the CRO's new office will be published at in future issues of the *Fernald Report*.

Fernald Citizens Task Force to Meet July 9

On July 9, the Fernald Citizens Task Force will hold its regular monthly meeting, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m., at the Alpha Building, 10967 Hamilton Cleves Highway, Harrison. Check the "Stakeholders/Opportunities" section of the FEMP Web site (<http://www.fernald.gov>) for a list of all public involvement activities.

Next Fernald Community Reuse Organization Meeting is Aug. 5

The Fernald CRO has canceled its July meeting; the group will reconvene Aug. 5, at 7 p.m., in the Ross High School Media Center, 3425 Hamilton-Cleves Road. The public is invited to attend. Please call the Fernald CRO message line, 513-648-4168, for up-to-date information regarding CRO meetings, and check the "Stakeholders/Opportunities" section of the FEMP Web site (<http://www.fernald.gov>).

Comments on DOE's Accelerated Cleanup Plan Requested By Sept. 9

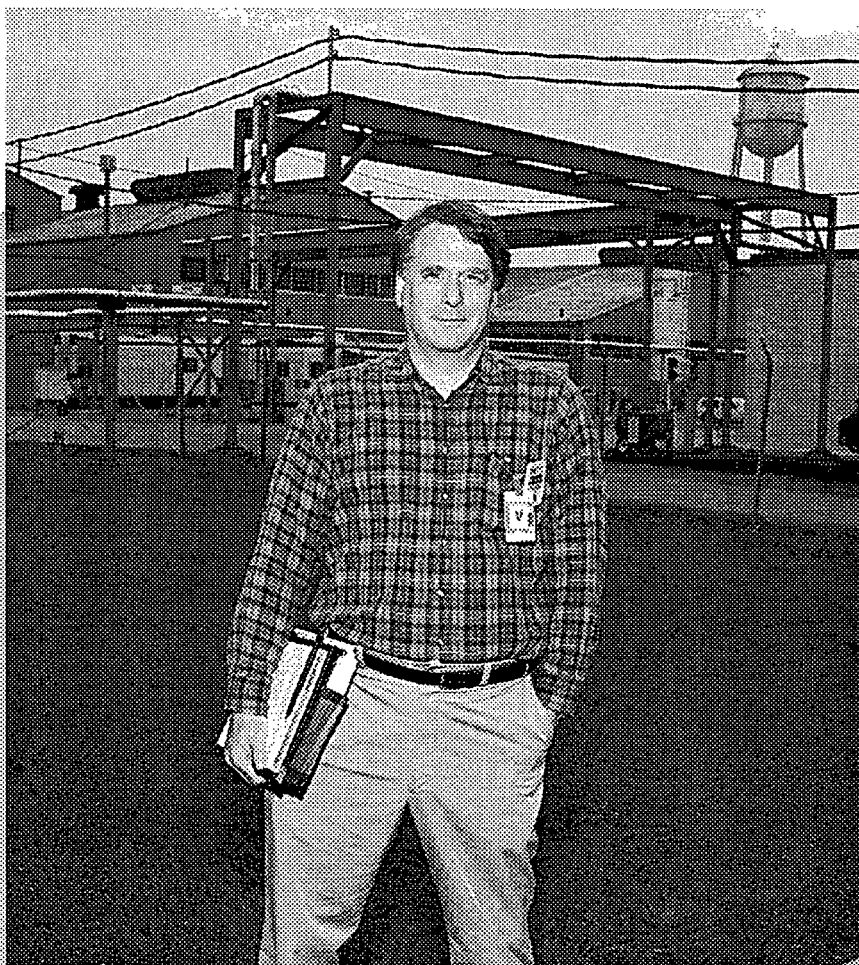
On June 12, DOE released the document *Accelerating Cleanup: Focus on 2006 Discussion Draft* and opened a 90-day public comment period, which ends Sept. 9. DOE will be holding workshops throughout the summer to help stakeholders understand and comment on the draft document, which is available at the PEIC and on DOE Environmental Management's Web site (<http://www.em.doe.gov/acc2006>).

Public Invited to July 22 Video Conference With DOE Assistant Secretary Alm

DOE is requesting public input on formation of the fiscal year 1999 budget request. This budget is being developed concurrently with the accelerated cleanup plan drafts, so the annual budgets can be established in context with long-term objectives. A video conference to discuss these matters will be held with DOE Assistant Secretary of Environmental Management Al Alm, on July 22, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Stakeholders are invited to participate in the on-site video conference (Health and Safety Building, room 111). However, they must contact Sue Walpole, 513-648-4026, by July 21 for site access forms and to ensure adequate seating.

PEIC Computer Workstation Available to Stakeholders

The PEIC has set up a computer for the public to access the Internet, real-time radon monitoring data and the entire index of all documents included in the FEMP Administrative Record and Reading Room, as well post-record-of-decision documents. The PEIC computer shares the FEMP's ISDN connection and accesses the Internet at a speed of 128 kilobits per second much faster than traditional modem connections. It also uses the Java-enabled Microsoft Internet Explorer Web browser. The workstation is outfitted with a CD-ROM drive, a 3.5-inch-floppy disk drive, and a 17-inch color monitor. In addition, users can print information using the PEIC's black ink laser printer. The computer is available on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information about the PEIC's computer, please call Rene Eichhold, 513-738-0164, until July 7. After July 14, dial 513-648-7480 to reach the PEIC.



Pictured above, Jim Maroncelli, Sacramento, Calif., learned he could tour Fernald by visiting the FEMP Internet Web site. Maroncelli, a principal scientist with the LAW Engineering and Environmental Service Inc., has been interested in the history of nuclear weapons all his life. He is researching and visiting several DOE sites, including the FEMP in June, and plans to write a book (6604-10).

State Route 126 Construction Complete

Construction of a turn lane from State Route 126 onto the Original North Access Road is complete. The turn lane will allow trucks entering the site in support of the Waste Pits Remedial Action Project (WPRAP) to do so safely. The Original North Access Road will not be used as a general access point to the site. The road is being used for deliveries, but most traffic along the Original North Access Road will occur in mid-1998, when the Alternative Remedial Action Subcontracting Approach (ARASA) contractor begins to mobilize equipment for the cleanup of the waste pits. During the mobilization phase, approximately 75 to 100 trucks may use the Original North Access Road.



Fernald Community Involvement Team Named "Outstanding Volunteer Program for 1997"

The Cincinnati Association of Volunteer Administrators has named the Fernald Community Involvement Team (FCIT) as the "Outstanding Volunteer Program for 1997." The Ross Area Merchants Association nominated the team, which is composed of 357 employee volunteers who have donated more than 1,000 hours for various community projects during the past year. Visit the "Stakeholders/Community Service" section of the FEMP Web site (<http://www.fernauld.gov>) for more information about FCIT activities.

FEMP Volunteers Help Collect Trash During Glad Bag-A-Thon at I-71

At the Dana Avenue entrance ramp to southbound Interstate-71 in Cincinnati, FCIT members, family and friends spent time Saturday, May 17, bagging trash during the second annual Glad Bag-A-Thon.

Volunteers from eight local businesses collected 5,250 pounds of litter from seven highway entrance and exit ramps.

From left, Barbara Campbell, Hadari Frye, Tony Frye, and Curtis Burnside were among the FCIT members who collected trash along the roadside at the Dana Avenue entrance ramp to southbound Interstate 71 in Cincinnati on May 17, as part of the Glad-Bag-A-Thon (6587-15).



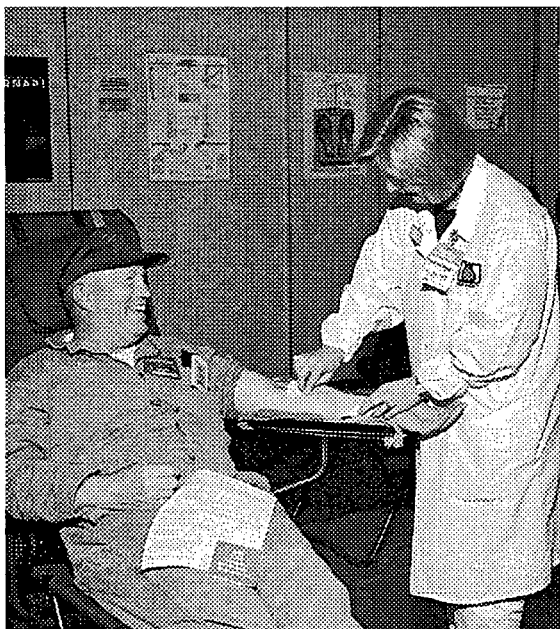
International Association of Fire Fighter Hazardous Material Training

In 1995, DOE through Fluor Daniel Fernald, awarded a contract to the International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) to assess the limitations of fire departments located along selected DOE rail and truck shipping routes and to develop training resources that addressed these deficiencies.

The IAFF determined the status of hazardous material emergency response capabilities in townships, municipalities, and cities along the FEMP's waste shipping routes and has submitted a draft needs analysis report to DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald. The IAFF also developed a training course which integrates emergency response actions to radiological events with actions for responses to hazardous material events. Three "test presentation" sessions of the class have been conducted to solicit feedback. When the final course is completed, it will be submitted for accreditation and approval.

The IAFF has proposed a tentative list of 48 training sites. During July, the Las Vegas, Nev., fire department is scheduled to participate in the first training class. Final selection of other sites will be submitted to each affected state's emergency management agency or emergency response commission for concurrence.

The International Association of Fire Fighters developed emergency response training that integrates radiological events. It will be available to townships, municipalities and cities along the FEMP's waste shipping routes. Here, during the Emergency Response '97 drill, in which state and local emergency response agencies participated, FEMP employee Ron McDonald pretends to be injured and receives simulated medical care after being involved a mock truck accident involving low-level radioactive waste (6589-43).



Fluor Daniel Fernald employee Don Breen donates blood during the Hoxworth Blood Drive at the FEMP May 23 and May 27 (6592-17).

Number of FEMP Donors Doubles in Hoxworth Blood Drive

Thanks to FEMP employees' generosity, more tri-state patients will be given a second chance at life. More than 175 employees donated blood during Hoxworth's spring blood drive, held at the FEMP May 23 and May 27.

"It was one of the most successful blood drives at the FEMP," said Kevin Huntington, Fluor Daniel Fernald fitness coordinator. "We more than doubled last year's numbers." In November 1996, only 69 FEMP employees donated blood. Although FEMP employees fell short of reaching Hoxworth's challenge of receiving 200 blood donors, they will strive to reach that goal during another blood drive later this year. According to Hoxworth Blood Center, approximately 300 blood donors are needed each day to help fill the needs of patients in the tri-state.

From Cans to Birds and Butterflies, FEMP Donations Help Land Lab Fly

On May 27, students, teachers, parents and business partners gathered at Crosby Elementary School to dedicate its newly developed "land lab." After years of planning, funds were collected; dirt was hauled and moved; foliage was planted; and related teaching activities were assembled. The result was an outdoor teaching resource for the entire community.



Fluor Daniel Fernald contributed to the land lab by donating aluminum cans to the Ecology Club. The students recycled the cans and then used the funds to purchase needed materials.

"None of this would have happened without all of the support from the many people involved throughout the years. Because of Fluor Daniel Fernald, our students have opportunities they wouldn't have otherwise," said Jill Overton, a teacher at the school and director of the after-school environmental program.

Stations at the land lab include areas labeled fossil, weather, tree, rock and soil. A large perennial garden was also planted in the hopes of attracting butterflies and hummingbirds. Corresponding curriculum is being developed to gain full benefit from the facility. Plans are already underway to expand by adding more trees and perhaps a wetlands area to the lab.

Students and teachers prepare to break the ribbon and officially open the Crosby Elementary School Land Lab (6553-11).

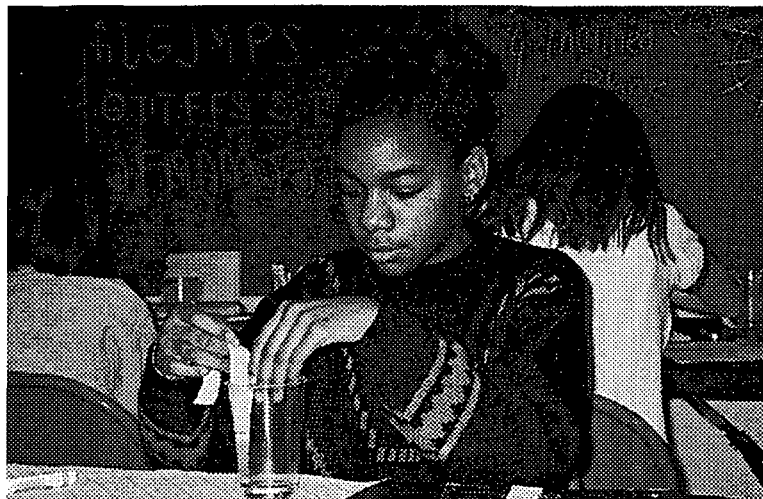


FEMP Donations Benefit Local Schools

DOE and Fluor Daniel Fernald are donating equipment no longer needed at the FEMP to local schools. Every year, the FEMP donates hundreds of items to schools in need through the FEMP's excess equipment program. "We are constantly looking for ways the community can benefit from the equipment we no longer need," said Gary Stegner, DOE-FEMP Public Information Officer. "An immense amount of good has come out of our donation program."

So far this year, the FEMP has donated 330 items to 24 different schools. Donated items include computers, printers, typewriters, calculators, video cassette recorders, slide projectors, copiers, modems, answering and adding machines, furniture and 178 tons of coal. "I don't think people realize how much we donate to area schools," said Sue Walpole, who coordinates FEMP Education Outreach programs. "The Department of Energy and Fluor Daniel Fernald really are dedicated to helping our community. Our donation program is just one of the many ways in which we're able to make a positive impact."

A FEMP employee adds a can to the collection that will be recycled and donated to local schools, which use the cash from the recycled cans for various projects (5674-11).



Education Outreach Activities Wind Down As School Year Ends

As the school year comes to a close, so do the year's FEMP Education Outreach Programs. In May, alone, the FEMP sponsored programs for more than 1,000 teachers and students. These events included speakers at eight different schools and a FEMP tour for the Partnership In Education students from Ross Middle School and Crosby Elementary School.

During the 1996-97 school year, FEMP Education Outreach Programs reached 10,000 educators and students (6411-9).

May Corporate Contributions

Education: \$600

Harrison Elementary School -- safety equipment for science lab;
Junior Achievement of Greater Cincinnati -- annual donation.

Health and Human Services: \$714

Southern Ohio Rescue Dogs -- helmets for dog handlers.

Civic: \$1,800

YMCA Black Achievers -- annual scholarship dinner support;
Hanover Township Fire Department -- life squad and fire department support;
Butler County Township Association -- scholarships.

Documents Available At Public Environmental Information Center

In response to stakeholder requests, a list of documents recently submitted to the PEIC is being published in the Fernald Report. For more information about these documents, please call Rene Eichhold, 513-738-0164 (513-648-7495 after July 14).

- Summary of information from the following meetings:
 - ◆ May 14 Silos Project public workshop;
 - ◆ May 27 Soil and Water public workshop;

* includes handouts, sign-in sheet, agenda, evaluation forms, and transcript.
- Response to comments on the Vitrification Pilot Plant melter incident
- Status of the following removal actions:
 - ◆ No. 16 -- Collecting Uncontrolled Production Area Runoff;
 - ◆ No. 10 -- Active Fly Ash Pile Controls;
 - ◆ No. 30 -- KC2 Warehouse/Well 67;
- Lessons Learned from Houdini I Project: A "Living Document;"
- May 1997 edition of the *Fernald Report*;
- Baseline Remedial Strategy Report;
- Approved National Environmental Protection Agency Documentation, April 1997;
- Best available technology determination for remedial construction activities at the Fernald site.

**Note: These are just some of the significant documents/reports that were recently sent to the PEIC.*

femp waste

Shipping Report

The volume, in cubic feet (cf), of low-level radioactive waste shipped to NTS for May 1997 was 65,140 (external). As of May 30, the FEMP had shipped 245,280 cf (external) of low-level radioactive waste to NTS for fiscal year (FY) 1997.

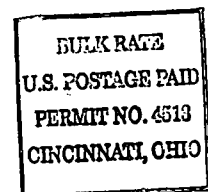
Low-level radioactive waste volume reduction includes approximately 4,439 containers of legacy low-level uranium residue and 4,456 containers of thorium oxalates/hydroxides identified in *FY 1996 Inventory Reduction Plan for Legacy Wastes at the FEMP*. During fiscal year 1997, efforts will be directed toward complete reduction of legacy uranium residue and asbestos inventories.

The volume of low-level radioactive waste materials per waste stream shipped to NTS in May 1997 follows:

Waste Stream	External Volume (cf)
Process Area Scrap	28,042
Thorium	9,972
Residues	14,746
Contaminated Trash	1,261
Construction	8,094
Stabilized Mixed Waste	3,025

The volume of low-level radioactive waste materials per waste stream shipped to NTS in FY 1997 (as of May 30, 1997) follows:

Waste Stream	External Volume (cf)
Process Area Scrap	44,069
Thorium	93,605
Residues	6,984
Contaminated Trash	11,351
Construction	16,267
Stabilized Mixed Waste	8,065



Fernald Report

U.S. Department of Energy
Fernald Environmental Management Project
P.O. Box 538705
Cincinnati, OH 45253-8705

Gary Stegner
Public Information Director
U.S. Department of Energy
Fernald Environmental Management Project
P.O. Box 538705
Cincinnati, OH 45253-8705
Telephone: 513-648-3153
E-Mail: Gary_Stegner@fernald.gov
FEMP Web Site: <http://www.fernald.gov>

DIANE RAYER
FERNALD PEIC
10845 HAMILTON-CLEVES RD.
HARRISON, OH 45030